

A TRUE
ACCOUNT
Of the Bringing up of
Sir Thomas Armstrong
TO
WESTMINSTER.
On Saturday the Fourteenth Day of June, 1684. and of the
Award for his
EXECUTION,
TO BE
DRAWN, HANG'D, and QUARTERED,

On Friday the Twentieth of the same Month.

TRAYTORS and MURDERERS although they vainly think to Fly from Justice after they have perpetrated such horrid Villanies, yet the *Divine Vengeance* very Rarely suffers Them to go Unpunished even in this Life; And if the *Wiseman* Advises, *To take heed of speaking against KINGS in our most private Recesses, Least the Birds of the Air reveal it;* What Man that expects to be Protected amongst *Humane Society* (but more especially that professes *Christianity*) can then imagine such *Bare fac'd Contrivances* as our late *Domestick Bloody Conspirators* have been Guilty of, will go Unrevenged by the *Justice of Heaven*, when instead of *Whisperings* against the *Sacred Person* of the KING, which in all Times hath been accounted *Criminal*; Our *Home-bred Traytors* did Contrive the open *Affassination* and *Murder* of the Best of *KINGS*; and also of his Onely Brother to destray if possible the *KINGLY RACE*; It's no Wonder that this *Horrid Contrivance* should set a *Mark* upon Them, and render Them as *Fugitives* and *Vagabonds* in the *Habitable World*.

Sir Thomas Armstrong, the Subject of this Paper, Albeit a Person that had been Loaded with the Favours of his Sovereign, and also received the *Pardon* of several *Capital Offences*, Yet that he might make himself the *Monster* of Mankind, and *Pattern* of the *Greatest Ingratitude* against this very Sovereign that had been so Kind to him; He is one of the most *Fierce* in the late *Barbarous Conspiracy*, and the most unwilling to desist from that *Bloody Design*, when they were prevented of their *Intended Affassination* at the *Rye*.

And when the Almighty who has appointed Kings to be his Vice-Gerents on Earth, detected their *Villany*, he with the First discovers his *Guilt*, (not by any humble Submission and Confession) but by flying his Country and persisting in *De-*
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villish Correspondencies, if possible, to find out some way to *Injure* that Prince he had so highly Offended.

During which time of his Absence, the L A W taking place against him, he was Indicted for *High-Treason* against the King's Majesty and Government, and for not appearing Outlawed and Attainted of the said *High-Treason*, and like a *Wandering Sinner* having spent almost Twelve Months, could not find shelter for such *Black Crimes* even in the Republick Countries: He was taken at *Leyden*, some few Miles from *Amsterdam*, and forthwith brought over in the *Katherine Yatch*, from whence (when arrived in our River) by a Warrant from His Majesties Principal Secretary of State received by the Keeper of *Newgate* in *London*, and brought to that Goal on *Wednesday* the 11th of *June* 1684.

On *Saturday* the 14th of the said Month, he was by *Habeas Corpus* carried from *Newgate* to *Westminster* before the Judges of His Majesties Court of *Kings Bench*; He was but in an ordinary Habit, like some old *Meagre decayed Gentleman*, and the Guilt of his *Crimes*, or some other Reason, caused such a paleness and deadness in his Countenance, that very little of that Courage was discoverable which in the time of his Greatness he was reported to be Master of.

His Lady (or one whom the people affirmed to be her) was at *Westminster*, as is supposed, to see how he behaved himself, rather then for any cause she had to lament him, for she was not observed to act any thing towards his Assistance.

One of his Daughters (being a married Gentlewoman) was there also, using some Womanlike passionate expressions on his behalf.

After the usual Proceeding of the Court in such Cases; viz. the Writ of *Habeas Corpus* returned and filed, the Warrant of his Commitment read, and that the Kings Attorney General had moved the Court, acquainting them at large upon what account he had been Indicted, how he stood Attainted of *High-Treason*, and prayed an Award for his *Execution*; Likewise after holding up his hand, that it was demanded of him, What he had to say, why *Judgment* should not be Awarded according to Law.

The said Sir *Thomas Armstrong* then alledged he had been out of the Kingdom when this Outlawry or Process was against him (or he used some expressions to that purpose) which availing him nothing, he then desired he might have the liberty of a Tryal, and being told it was too late to ask that now, since nothing remained but for the Court to make a Rule for his *Execution*.

He desired some Statute might be read, which being readily granted, although he alledged by that Statute he ought to have a Tryal, yet on the contrary, it appeared that he could not thereby claim the benefit of a Tryal, unless he had surrendered himself, as directed in the said Statute.

Several other *Insignificant Evasions* being by him made, they were all fully answered, and the Court Ordered that a Rule should be made for his *Execution*, on *Friday* (viz. the 20th of *June*, 1684.)

He then used some reflecting Expressions, and complained that he had been Robbed since he was in Custody; also pleaded something of his *Innocency*, or that he was as *Innocent* as some other Men, to whom a Tryal had been offered; his Daughter also used some reflecting language.

The Court then ordered the Keeper of *Newgate* to take back his Prisoner, and he was accordingly carried back to *Newgate*, in order to his *Execution*, as in Case of *High-Treason*.